



THE BELL RINGER



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Mr. Joe C. Davis, Chairman of the MBA Board of Trustees, and student body President Rich Good aid Mr. Jack C. Massey in breaking ground for the Jack C. Massey Junior School Building as MBA students look on.

Luminaries Help MBA Celebrate Groundbreaking

By Andrew McAllister

On Wednesday February 17, the official groundbreaking ceremonies for the massive expansion of MBA's campus were held. Mr. Jack C. Massey, who donated the \$750,000 needed to construct a new Junior School Building, took the first symbolic shovel of turf at the site of the new building.

During the indoor part of the ceremonies, several very distinguished men spoke to the student body and friends of MBA. After the invocation by David White, the honor council president and a medley of patriotic songs by the MBA chorus, Nashville Mayor Richard Fulton reminisced about his days of playing football against MBA, and Tennessee Governor Lamar Alexander gave his feelings about what MBA strives for. Mr. Massey then expressed his concern for education and for the development of the men MBA's slogan describes: the gentleman, the scholar, and the involved citizen.

Outside, the groundbreaking took place. In addition to Mr. Massey, those who took part in the shoveling were Headmaster Gordon E. Bondurant, General Campaign Chairman DeWitt C. Thompson IV, Board Chairman Joe C. Davis, student body president Rich Good, and Honor Council president David White.

Mr. Massey's contribution greatly aids the school's 7.5 million dollar campaign aimed toward expanding both the facilities and the endowment of MBA. The Junior School Building will house the Junior School and faculty, freeing the Ball Building for badly needed office space, a computer room, and hopefully a lecture hall. Expansion of athletic facilities include the building of new football, baseball, and soccer fields, and five new tennis courts (to replace the five that must be torn down for the football field). Also, there are plans for expanding the Brownlee O. Curry

gymnasium, which includes a new halfcourt basketball floor, a weight room, a wrestling room, and a new science lab. There are plans for renovating the Old Science Building, to which hardly anything has been done since the remodeling of the early sixties. The building will be renamed the Francis E. Carter, Jr. Hall, in honor of MBA's esteemed former headmaster who died in 1979.

The most important part of MBA's fundraising drive is the enlargement of the endowment. The school hopes to add about \$5 million to the existing \$2.5 million fund. The endowment is used to award scholarships to several students a year and to keep down the cost of the tuition. Since only the interest from the fund is used, and because of the high inflation rate of the last few years, the Board of Trustees felt it necessary to increase the amount of money in the endowment.

The groundbreaking ceremony succeeded in getting both the student body and those outside of MBA excited in anticipation of the great things to come in the future of the school. Mr. Bondurant orchestrated a very well-organized affair which showed that MBA is a part of society worth the effort and dedication needed to improve it. The speakers in the ceremony stressed their hope that every man who has ever attended or who is presently attending MBA realizes how lucky he is to be a part of an institution that is so highly regarded by so many people like Mr. Massey and everyone else who is willing to give donations for its improvement. The present fundraising drive and subsequent improvements of the campus and the endowment represent the largest effort to improve MBA since the founding of the school in 1867.

THE POLL: MBA Speaks Out

MBA is moderately religious, cynical, slightly alcoholic, anti-smoking, undersexed, and above all full of ideas about what is right and wrong with Life on The Hill.

Such are the indications of a recent *Bell Ringer* survey of 176 students and 15 faculty members. The opinion poll, although it brings out no earth-shaking revelations about MBA's behavior and thoughts, does reveal some surprises and is probably fairly indicative of the true feelings of the students, since about half of the upper school responded to it. Faculty percentages may be somewhat erroneous because so few responded; however, the comments made by teachers are generally incisive and introspective.

Among the surprises revealed by the poll is the similarity of thought between the faculty and many of the students. A question about the

extent of student influence on teacher hirings and firings, for instance, is not included in *The Bell Ringer's* tabulations because of the unanimity of its response: not only teachers, but also most students answered "none."

Another surprise is the number of students suggesting a reform of the demerit system, particularly at the junior school level. Those criticizing the present system, which was reformed in 1978, primarily cite misuse in the junior school, problems in the appeal system, and the placing of the entire disciplinary burden on one man as faults in the system. A majority of teachers polled expressed disfavor at the system.

The most interesting surprise of the survey is that coeducation is not a dead issue at MBA. The idea of opening the school to girls sparked emotional debate in the early

1970's, when students saw the anti-coed stance as an "old fogey" position with tradition impeding progress. The Board of Trustees' position of late, however, has been that coeducation would simply be physically unfeasible and financially unworkable. But a significant number of students in each grade and even one teacher suggested that MBA needs girls.

And then others simply express a wistful, glandular desire for feminine society in general. We can't print those.

Less surprising is the amount of cynicism prevalent in many of the responses: one student comments that "they won't listen. Not worth lead pencil."

Other responses display a pervading, self-centered apathy: several respondents to the question

(Continued on page 3)



The first annual 60's dance on February 27 brought out the latent "rebel without a cause" in MBA and Harpeth Hall students. (Above left, l. to r.): Elizabeth P'Pool Russell Jones, Martha P'Pool, Andrew Berry, Capell Teas, and Jane Mabry crowd around the revolutionary Whitfield Hamilton. (Middle): Tricky Rick Carter and



friends. (Right, l. to r.): Brad Blevins, Kim Sanders, Sean Gentry, David Wood, 'Attila the Hun' Hamilton, Cathy Callaway, and Risa Klein entertain 60's veterans Mr. Womack, Mr. Nixon, and Mr. Drake.



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Letters to the Editor

Religious Bias at MBA

Dear Editor:

At the ground breaking ceremony, a disturbing occurrence took place. At the end of the inspirational prayer given by our Honor Council president David White, who is supposed to represent the student body on the whole, concluded his prayer with "in Jesus' name we pray." From what I understand, this is not a religiously affiliated school. If on the other hand it were, I could possibly understand a prayer which concludes in this manner. What we must remember is that although there is a Christian majority in this school, we must not overlook the fact that there is a significant

number of non-Christian minorities which also attend this school and share different religious beliefs from the majority. I found David White's prayer acceptable except for his last phrase. I feel that it is not proper for prayers at MBA to end in this fashion. The minorities on the hill should also have rights, and if the priests and others who come to MBA must lead us in prayer let them do so, but I feel that they ought to be able to end their prayers in a more appropriate way than "in Jesus' name we pray." How about "in God's name we pray?"

Pete Orenstein

Dear Editor:

In looking back over the school year, I was surprised to find the great number of times in which I had to take several tests in one day. In class, a teacher tells his class that they will be having a test on Thursday. Oh, that's just fine, but what if the student also happens to have a mathematics test, English test, and history test all on the same day? I understand that it is no easy task for a teacher to pre-plan his teaching schedule. I also understand that it is hard for a teacher to change his test date, especially if he has a tight teaching schedule. But what I cannot understand is that

out of all the school days, teachers still manage to schedule tests on the same day. There are several ways to solve this problem. One way could be to synchronize test dates; that is, have perhaps English tests on Monday, Math tests on Tuesday, language tests on Wednesday, etc. . . . Another solution could be to increase communication between the students and faculty, and between the faculty members themselves in scheduling test days that are satisfactory to both the students and the teachers. I think this would significantly raise the averages of many students by giving them more time to concentrate on one subject. Most of all, this would cut down on the often extreme academic pressure felt by all MBA students.

John Ryu

"Involved Citizen?"

Dear Editor:

During the ground-breaking ceremony, I noticed that Mr. Bonduant said that MBA raises boys to be "gentlemen, scholars, and concerned citizens." What is this "concerned citizens?" When was this changed and why? What gives anybody the right to change 120 years of tradition? I think the "athlete" ought to be placed back in. When kept in the right perspective, the "athlete" should not be any cause for change. It has always been in the order of gentleman first, scholar second, and athlete third. There seems to be no reason to change this tradition. Has the school stopped caring about athletics? I think that the motto ought to be returned to its former glory.

Mark Brothers

Selfish Students: A Teacher's Opinion

Dear Editor:

I am tired of feeling like a mean old lady. I am tired of feeling as if I have done my students wrong by daring to have the temerity to schedule a major test in one of my classes on the same day as a test in another class, or on the same day that a theme, term paper, or Science Fair project is due, or on the day before Spring Break begins, or on a Monday, or a Friday, etc., etc., etc. Teachers, as well as students, have responsibilities and deadlines to meet. Each teacher has particular material which he or she presents to the students in an orderly progression, leading the student to an ultimate understanding of new concepts in a set amount of time. Six weeks' grading periods come and go whether or not the teacher feels like writing notes or averaging grades or planning a lesson on a particular weekend or evening and regardless of whether there are other activities occurring at the same time in the teacher's life. But teachers do this work, not asking for any schedule rearrangements. (I cannot imagine my crying to Mr. Bonduant that it was inconvenient for the six weeks' grades to be due on a certain date because that was the night I wanted to prepare my preterite lecture.) not because they

are better people, but because they realize that balancing school work itself and all other daily activities, including family responsibilities, must be done in order to survive in the real world. Part of your jobs as students is learning to cope with myriad responsibilities and pressures in and out of school, and, I hope, learning to cope with a certain degree of grace and maturity. Most of you are college bound. You will receive a sad awakening when you try to play on the sympathies of a college professor who schedules a test or term paper or a 500-page reading assignment by saying that you won't do well on the assignment because you have some other project due the same day. He will look at you as if you are some new strange form of life because professors in universities often do not know, realize, or care that life goes on outside of their own specialized fields of study. And even if they do realize and care, they will expect you, the student, to be able to handle whatever they throw your way. If you don't, they know that there are plenty of other applicants only too happy to fill your place.

Here, at MBA, you are lucky. Few teachers give "pop" major tests, "pop" term papers, "pop" themes, or "pop" Science Fairs.

You often have days or weeks of advance notice before a major assignment is due. I know that it is fashionable to brag about how late you stayed up on theme night and about how you cannot possibly face any other work in any other class on the same day, or the day before, or the day after, or on a Monday, or on a Friday, etc., etc., etc. . . . I'm tired of hearing these same lame excuses. If the trend of giving in to these complaints continues, we can only expect the lowering of the academic standards by which MBA has lived and by which our school has earned its fine reputation.

Most teachers do not mind making a few concessions. Having four major tests on the same day is hard, and I don't wish such a schedule on anyone. What I do wish is an attitude of co-operation. Every single conflicting test, theme, term paper assignment cannot and should not be worked out. Life itself is often not very conveniently arranged. Meaningful, orderly learning cannot take place in an atmosphere of believing that one can only do a single thing well at a time. Meaningful teaching cannot take place in such an atmosphere either.

Mrs. Beatrice O'Connell

13 National Merit Finalists Named



Each of these National Merit Finalists is eligible for one of 5,000 scholarships to be awarded nationwide. Left to right: Kevin Drury, Wyatt Wells, Steve Anderson, Page Garrett, Mark Hastings, John Hitt, Brad Sitton, Paul Kornman, Tripp Townsend, Bruce Mangrum, Bill Altemeier, George Carpenter.

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THE POLL: An Introspective Look at the MBA Community

(Continued from page 1)

about demerits say that they "never get any, so it isn't important." By and large, however, students display a wide variety of convictions and seem to care about the issues. (Witness the number of upper school students concerned about the junior school demerit situation).

Question 1: Religion

Although interpretations of the question may have varied, the overwhelming sentiment is "moderately religious." Interestingly, despite a substantial agnostic minority, only one respondent in the entire poll considers himself an atheist.

Question 2: Alcohol

Nobody will be surprised to learn that MBA students drink, nor to learn that some drink heavily. But the most disturbing aspect of these results is the number of students whose comments ran in the vein of this junior's comment: "MBA fosters unhappiness to such an extent that I and 95% of the 10-12th grade students go out to find happiness by getting drunk. It is a blast, but caused by MBA's atmosphere." Such comments seem to indicate that a tendency is developing to use alcohol as a release or an escape from pressure. Such a proclivity, especially prevalent in the junior class and to a lesser extent among seniors, is cause for concern because many experts consider it a sign of alcoholism.

Question 3: Marijuana

MBA's response seems to reflect the national trend of fewer high school students smoking marijuana, although we have no data from previous years. Regular smokers are in a distinct minority, but it seems that many students have tried the weed. Thus it appears that marijuana is no longer the emotional, socially stigmatized issue it once was at MBA, but probably fewer students are smoking it.

Question 4: Cigarettes

Even accounting for a certain amount of dishonesty and statistical error, these results are astounding proof that the government's anti-smoking campaign begun in 1963 and stepped up under the Jimmy Carter administration has been effective. Only 10 of 176 respondents considered themselves regular smokers.

Question 5: What is MBA's greatest strength?

Freshman Class Answers: "Academics" (13); "Athletics" (5); "Student body;" "Tradition of excellence;" "Freshman class;" "Freedom and intellectual power."

Sophomore Class Answers: "Academics" (18); "Faculty" (4); "Students" (3); "Tradition" (3); "Athletics;" "Pride in school;" "The rock-and-rollers."

Junior Class Answers: "Academics" (26); "Tradition;" "Mr. Drake;" "Skill of its teachers;" "Athletics."

Senior Class Answers: "Academics" (30); "Tradition" (4); "English" (4); "College preparation" (4); "Athletics" (2); "Faculty" (2); "Reputation;" "Discipline;" "Liberal arts;" "Michael Drake;" "Rob Doster."

Faculty Answers: "Quality of faculty and students" (5); "Academic quality;" "Reputation;" "Good athletic program;" "Alumni support;" "Strong leadership;" "Tradition."

Question 6: What is MBA's greatest weakness?

Freshman Class Answers: "Not enough school spirit in some people;" "Teachers;" "Athletic decline" (3); "Attitude" (2); "Demerits;" "Homework load" (2); "Lack of freedom."

Sophomore Class Answers: "Lack of school spirit" (4); "Inflexibility;" "Racism;" "Competitive atmosphere;" "Social enclosure" (7); "Cafeteria" (2).

Junior Class Answers: "Fails many times to recognize the individual and allow change;" "Pressure for conformity;" "No girls;" "Pressure by teachers who don't give a damn about your other efforts, such as tests in other classes."

Senior Class Answers: "Discipline;" "Closed minds: anti-vocationalism, snobbery, and callous insensitivity" (5); "Conformity, oppression of tradition, repression of student viewpoints, lack of expression in general" (5); "Student-administration relations" (3); "Hypocrisy--telling all to get really involved, then screwing you to the wall when you do."

Faculty Answers: "Too structured. Do not agree that every boy needs two years of Latin;" "Cafeteria;" "Homogeneity of student body;" "Student apathy;" "Reputation."

Question 7: Does MBA's all-male atmosphere add to or detract from the educational experience?

Despite the number of "we want girls!" comments, the 1982 student body seems, as a whole, solidly in favor of MBA's single-sex status. This opinion starkly contrasts the results of a 1975 *Bell Ringer* poll, taken when coeducation was being more seriously debated.

Question 8: Student Council effectiveness.

Here again a great shift in opinion from 1975. The reasons for dissatisfaction with the Student Council included not only many complaints about its ability to effect changes, but also some complaints that it should exist not to change things, but to facilitate administration -- student relations. Others said that the Student Council should "Do more than just sponsor dances."

Question 9: Honor Council Effectiveness.

Despite the criticism that has befallen this institution in recent years, the MBA community gives it an apparent vote of confidence. Many students express no opinion, however, and only three faculty members surveyed feel that it is effective. One teacher comments: "Students at the high school level lack the maturity to make moral judgements, particularly if their friends are the accused. I am not sure many adults are able to evaluate the innocence or guilt of their own friends."

Question 10: Should athletics be compulsory?

The majority of those polled oppose the current system of mandatory athletics, but no clear consensus was reached. A number of ideas were put forth: "Two seasons per year" was the suggestion of several; another suggests "A credit requirement -- say, four semesters." Others assert that the "Student should be able to work after school." One junior writes: "Compulsory athletics is not a workable concept at MBA."

Question 11: What is your opinion of the demerit system?

Our number one response to this question is unprintable. Suffice to say that 43% register disapproval with the system as it now stands. Comments:

Freshman Class Answers: "Not a bad idea, but here it is taken to unfair extremes;" "I'd rather have paddlings or detentions;" "Good, but some rule should be revised."

Junior Class Answers: "Lacks clear definition of what is an offense. Also, the number of demerits depends on Dr. Crowell's mood."

Senior Class Answers: "Very broad -- you can cuss out a teacher and leave your books in study hall but still get the same number of demerits;" "I think two demerits for talking without permission is too lenient. Expel the criminals!"

Faculty Answers: "Not perfect, but generally works for the best of all;" "Ineffective;" "It's effective, but somewhat archaic;" "Misused at Junior School level;" "As presently set up, woefully ineffective."

Question 12: What types of programs do you prefer or dislike in Assembly?

A majority of those surveyed indicate a dislike for religious speakers in Assemblies. Other comments dwell on the length and frequency of the morning gatherings and express a desire for more musical and more career-related programs. Comments:

Freshman Class Answers: "None religious, something either cultural, or humorous;" "I prefer Ted Nugent as a speaker;" "I still dislike religious speakers, since I don't come here to pray;" "Prefer F.C.A. information, dislike music shows;" "Prefer AV presentations dislike religious;" "Prefer athletic speakers."

Sophomore Class Answers: "Prefer drama programs;" "Good rock-n-roll bands, or no Assembly at all;" "Prefer no assembly;" "Like Mr. Novak and Mr. Womack, dislike religious;" "Programs and good speakers;" "Like White Animals, dislike 'Have a nice day.'"

Junior Class Answers: "I prefer no assemblies, I've got better things to do with my time;" "Very few, only for presentations as announcements are easily put on Ball Building door."

Senior Class Answers: "Dislike Jesus Freaks;" "Dislike 5 minute programs;" "Career oriented;" "Religious programs should be optional."

Faculty: "Dislike preachers of any religious persuasion;" "More musical programs;" "Assemblies should be twice a week."

Question 13: In what ways would you improve MBA?

Somewhat curiously, the most prominent sentiment expressed in these replies is "No Eighth Periods." Close behind is the issue of increased senior privileges such as a senior year; other suggestions advocate coeducation and expansion of the curriculum to include courses such as typing. Comments:

Freshman Class Answers: "Demerits only for major disturbances;" "More social events with SCA and HH;" "Better parking, improved food;" "Change demerit system. Change lots of things; not four study halls a day;" "Nude cheerleaders."

Sophomore Class Answers: "More stringent Honor Code enforcement;" "More interesting assemblies;" "Available women;" "Bring Van Halen to school;" "Exams before Christmas;" "Legalize dipping on campus" (3).

Junior Class Answers: "Noncompulsory athletics;" "Because of my answer to No. 3 (heavy marijuana smokes), I am obviously not capable of any realistic ideas, except this: I'd like

to use the time from 2:30 to 3:20 getting my mandatory athletics out of the way, instead of mandatory 8th period study hall."

Senior Class Answers: "Reconsider girls at MBA - study the idea fully for it should be a real issue;" "Shorter school days;" "Diversify the student body;" "Improve student counseling. There need to be more Mr. Drakes, administrators who communicate with the students and care where each student goes to college;" "Less structured;" "Start classes at 7:45 on Friday with no 8th period; then, dismissal at 1:35."

Faculty: "Reduce faculty-student ratio;" "Co-eds (eventually);" "Money to bring in outstanding assembly programs;" "Personally to improve my teaching and coaching;" "Running of the school with the students of the utmost concern - not the parents or the Board;" "Positive image for Junior School;" "A more honest image;" "A more unified, supportive faculty;" "Abandon 19th century image of 'gentlemen;" "Shorten academic day."

All Figures in Percentages
1975 Results in Italics

Questions	Grade					Total
	Nine	Ten	Eleven	Twelve	Faculty	
1. Are you:						
deeply religious	12(19)	15(17)	25(16)	10(21)		13.8(18)
moderately religious	82(66)	76(66)	57(53)	69(53)		70.7(58)
agnostic	6(15)	9(15)	19(26)	21(18)		14.9(18)
atheistic	0(0)	0(0)	2(5)	0(0)		0.6(2)
2. Do you drink alcohol?						
none	43	39	31	14		30.1
rarely	31	43	31	23		30.1
almost every weekend	17	12	31	46		30.1
more often	9	6	7	16		9.7
3. Do you smoke marijuana?						
never	80	64	67	29		59.9
tried it once	8	24	13	32		19.3
occasionally	6	6	11	32		15.4
often	6	6	9	7		6.3
4. Do you smoke cigarettes regularly?						
yes	6	6	4	8		6.0
no	94	94	96	92		94.0
7. Does MBA's all-male atmosphere detract from or add to the educational experience?						
adds	37(38)	52(33)	37(34)	73(50)	54	55.5(39)
detracts	29(54)	27(60)	43(53)	18(39)	13	28.8(51)
opinion	34(8)	21(7)	0(12)	11(11)	33	15.7(10)
8. Is the Student Council:						
effective	26(62)	24(65)	16(63)	17(53)	20	22.0(60)
ineffective	37(31)	61(30)	68(29)	75(42)	47	58.1(34)
no opinion	37(7)	15(5)	16(8)	8(5)	33	15.7(6)
9. Is the Honor Council:						
effective	54(81)	43(58)	45(58)	46(71)	20	45.0(65)
ineffective	29(19)	39(40)	33(30)	35(27)	40	35.0(30)
no opinion	17(0)	18(2)	22(12)	19(2)	40	20.0(5)
10. Should athletics be compulsory?						
yes	31(42)	52(40)	45(21)	40(26)	60	41.4(32)
no	63(58)	27(36)	50(74)	48(68)	40	48.1(64)
no opinion	6(8)	21(4)	5(5)	12(6)	0	10.5(4)
14. Does The Bell Ringer reflect student opinion?						
yes	54(42)	70(64)	53(47)	69(42)	47	59.2(45)
no	17(42)	15(47)	33(45)	6(32)	13	17.3(41)
no opinion	29(16)	15(9)	14(8)	25(26)	40	



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Debate Team Success

By Wyatt Wells

In the past three weeks, the forensics team has scored three smashing successes at tournaments at Emory University, Overton High School, and Western Kentucky University. At the grueling 3-day tournament at Emory, MBA did very well against the competition of 100 other schools. In extemp, Alex Grimsley broke to semifinals, and in original oratory, both Alex Grimsley and Greer Tidwell broke to semifinals. In debate, the team of Lyn Robbins and Bryan Hassel posted a 4-2 record and tied for 33rd while the team of Wyatt Wells and Craig Franklin posted a 5-1 record, beat Valley High School from Iowa in double-octofinals before losing to Cathedral Prep from Pennsylvania in the octofinals. The next week, the debate team stayed closer to home to participate in the Tennessee District tournament at Overton to determine who from

the state of Tennessee would get the honor of being able to participate in the National Tournament this summer in San Francisco. The team of Lyn Robbins and Bryan Hassel went to the semifinals where they lost a very close round to Madison. In the final round the team of Wyatt Wells and Craig Franklin defeated the Madison team on a 3-0 decision, thus winning the right to go to the San Francisco tournament this summer. Last week, at Western Kentucky, the forensic team scored one of its most impressive victories of the year. In extemp, Alex Grimsley won third; and in original oratory Grimsley won second. In debate, Kyle Hardin won third place novice speaker, Craig Franklin fifth place varsity speaker, Bryan Hassel fourth place varsity speaker, Wyatt Wells second place varsity speaker, and Lyn Robbins first place varsity speaker. In the novice division, the team of Kyle Hardin and Doug Johnson won second place, losing in the final round to Hillsboro High School on a 2-1 decision. In varsity debate, the team of Sam Chang and Ty Brown broke to semifinals, where they lost to Lyn Robbins and Bryan Hassel. Robbins and Hassel posted a 5-0 pre-elimination record and defeated Madison on a 2-1 decision in the quarterfinals. In the finals, they beat St. Xavier from Kentucky on a 2-1 decision.

Video Club To Assemble

By Seth Sharpe

Over the past ten years, modern technology has made it easier for one to record life on video as well as audio. Video equipment has become much more available to the common man. Video has also become much more than entertainment. Its great potential is being recognized as an educational tool and more and more as an art form. MBA, as well as many of its students, has become increasingly interested in video technology, to the extent that there is talk of a possible class concerning this subject. The plans are not definite at all, but the class would probably be under the direction of the art department. Mr. Womack has expressed that he would "definitely" be willing to teach such a class and would take the time this summer to take a class at a local college to learn more about the subject himself. The class would include the study of films and of filmmaking techniques. This would include the actual making of films. The school already owns a videotape machine as well as a camera and other equipment. Although the idea is still in a very early stage, students will definitely find increased opportunities in this area in the next year.

SCA's Fiddler a Hit

By Kevin Drury

Fiddler on the Roof, the wonderful musical that ran for almost eight years on Broadway, was presented at Saint Cecilia Academy for three days, February 26-28, to near-sellout crowds. As usual at Saint Cecilia, the work of many professionals was evident. Paul Klapper was the director, Pat Killough was the musical director, and Donna Carver was the choreographer. The credit for the excellent sets goes to the set designers Sam Craig and Robert New and to the crew which built the sets. Gary McGuire, the drama coach from Whites Creek High School, powerfully played the lead role of Tevye.

The work of the professionals was complemented by hard work by the cast especially the MBA members which included Rob Sommer, Rob Bonar, Dan Jones, Ty Brown, Drew Moore, and Chris

THE MUSIC SCENE

Blitz, Ska, Psychodelia--Music's Newest Waves

By Mark Oldham

In recent years, it has been difficult to find a musical trend with staying power. The late '70s brought about the death of England's punk rock and took a somewhat stable underground music scene with it. With the beginning of the '80s came a massive onslaught of new and diverse bands with small, independent record labels and generally without any hint of musical professionalism.

Yet at present there seem to be several various musical styles with an air of permanence. The newest trend, labeled "The New Romantics" or simply "Blitz," was born out of a London nightclub called "Blitz." These new romantics replace punk pessimism with a cheerful optimism reflected in their bizarre dress styles as well as their music. Fashion seems to be as important to them as the music itself. Although there are many bands which can be included in this movement, two bands best represent it: the Spandau Ballet and Adam and the Ants.

Spandau Ballet is a London quintet that plays electronic, synthesized dance music. Their

premiere album, *Journeys to Glory*, has a few decent tracks, but becomes repetitiously boring. Adam and the Ants, contrary to popular belief, are not "punk rock," but rather just another band of pop musicians succeeding from commercial hype via their hit single "Antmusic." The Ants are led by Adam, who is dressed as a pirate with war paint and a brocade jacket. Adam and the Ants produce somewhat monotonous dance music complete with Indian chants and war cries.

Another form is the Ska-Reggae movement, which has recently become popular in America. Reggae is a sound born out of the Rastafarian culture, primarily in Jamaica and the West Indies, relying heavily on African tribal rhythms. Many new groups have combined Reggae with modern musical techniques to form "Ska," a term coined by rock journalists for such bands as The Selecter, Joe Jackson, and Madness. The two bands that best display the Ska talent are The Specials and The English Beat, both of whom sing about controversial social and political issues in a danceable fashion. Also, the more pop-oriented Police have successfully combined Reggae and rock to form their own ingenious style,

specifically displayed in their latest excellent album, *Ghost in the Machine*.

The third and last musical style is the Psychodelic Revival. After the 1960's, psychodelic music became almost nonexistent. But now, in the 80's, strangely enough, Psychodelia is being revived by a number of young people in the United Kingdom. Of this group, the most easily identified are the Psychodelic Furs, who released a distinctive album last summer entitled *Talk, Talk, Talk*. The songs of this LP generally deal with emotional adolescent thought. The most critically acclaimed and probably the best group of this trend is U2. U2's first album, *Boy*, displays a wide variety of musical talent ranging from expressive vocals to cutting guitar leads. Their latest album, *October*, though not as prodigious an effort as the first, nevertheless helps uphold the band's reputation as innovative musicians.

Although many people may know very little if anything about these bands, their music still gives one the choice of an alternative style to escape the sometimes-boring mainstream sound.

WRVU to Boost Wattage

By Tom Wood

The Bell Ringer has learned that WRVU, the Vanderbilt University radio station better known as 91-Rock, will soon be increasing its wattage output from 450 watts to 5000 watts, thus making it competitive with the top AOR (album-oriented rock) stations in the Nashville area.

91-Rock Music Director David Tune informed *The Bell Ringer* that the station hopes to boost its power by late April, constructing a new broadcasting tower probably at Vandy's Dyer Observatory located near Brentwood. Tune said that the Federal Communications

Commission granted WRVU a permit for the expansion several weeks ago.

91-Rock has become popular among the 15-20 age group, primarily because of its liberal music philosophy and because it is commercial-free. The station offers probably Nashville's most diverse range of musical entertainment, including jazz, bluegrass, and classical, as well as rock that is often considered untouchable by more "respectable" stations. WRVU officials hope to reach more of the station's potential listening audience by increasing its broadcast range.

Al DiMeola: Jazz Master

By Mark Oldham

Voted "best Jazz Guitarist" for the last five years by *Guitar Player* magazine, Al DiMeola continues to take his music new places on his new album *Electric Rendezvous* on Columbia Records. Known as a versatile guitarist throughout the music world, DiMeola displays his

talent in many ways in his latest effort.

Side one opens with a very high strung track called "God Bird Change," which is basically modern fusion jazz relying heavily upon the use of the mini-moog and other electronic devices. The next song, the title track, departs from jazz and enters the world of rock to exhibit the artist's accomplished ability in a harder form. In his best guitar solos, Al DiMeola bears a striking resemblance to vintage Jeff Beck. On the final number of side one, the musician rivals the immor-

tal Steve Howe.

The second side opens with "Cruisin'," probably the best track on the album. This song is a kinetic blend of funk and fusion to create an upbeat sound. The remaining three tunes find DiMeola hooking up with the virtuoso Chick Corea to expand in the field of traditional jazz accompanied with a modern sound.

For one who has heard little jazz, *Electric Rendezvous* by Al DiMeola gives one a chance to feel some of the hottest, most melodic electric music ever performed.

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Garfinkel Leads Wrestlers; Captures State Title

By Jeff Gaw

Led by state champion Mark Garfinkel, the Varsity Wrestling team completed an outstanding season with a first place finish in the District Tournament, a third place finish in the Regional Tournament, and a ninth place finish in the State Championship.

MBA rode to victory in the District on the backs of winners Mark Garfinkel and Kent Rollins; second place finishers Bill Claunch, Mike Laws, Scott Haynes, and John Dale; third place wrestlers Scott Garfinkel, Scott Albright, and Mack Brothers; and fourth place finisher Ally Fuqua. The team faced stiff competition from Franklin but held on to win and sent its ten place-winners to the Regionals.

At the Regional Tournament, John Dale subdued all of his opponents while Mark Garfinkel, Kent Rollins, and Bill Claunch finished second in their respective divisions. These four experienced wrestlers then advanced to the State Championship.

At the state tournament, Rollins fought his way to a second place finish in a tough weight division, and Mark Garfinkel at 105 lbs. captured the state championship, which he won at 98 lbs. last year. Avenging an earlier loss to Ryan's John Drennan in the Regional, Garfinkel became MBA's first two-time state champion.

The impressive records of the

MBA wrestlers netted many of them post-season NIL honors. Selected for honorable mention All-NIL were Scott Haynes, Scott Albright, Mike Laws, and Ally Fuqua. Scott Garfinkel and Bill Claunch were members of the All-NIL third team. Kent Rollins and John Dale joined Mark Garfinkel, the All-NIL Wrestler of the Year, on the twelve-man All-NIL first team.

The success of the entire wrestling team this year can be attributed to the dedication and closeness of the team members. This year's team had many excellent underclassmen who will undoubtedly help MBA's wrestling program in the future.



Kent Rollins, who captured second place in the state at 138 lbs., dominates a Franklin Rebel.

MBA Riflery Program Excels

By Greer Tidwell

The 1981-82 MBA rifle team started its season with a large turnout for the first two practices at the beginning of November. The number of shooters had to be reduced from 23 to 12 because of limited space at the Vanderbilt rifle range. The final team members

were Charlie Cox, Bob Hendrick, David Kurtz, Brad Mangrum, Perry Patterson, Steve Stevens, Greer Tidwell, Billy Treanor, Robert Van, Walt Zibas, Arthur Bond, and Bruce Burgess.

Although the team placed a "disappointing" second place (by five points) in the first two-position

match on December 12, this year's rifle team upheld the tradition of victoriously representing MBA in competition with other Nashville high school teams. Despite very tough competition, MBA won first place in the overall league tournament. Our score of 1733 topped Hillwood's by four points and gained the first place position for MBA. The final top five man team members shooting in this match were Stevens, Kurtz, Tidwell, Treanor, and Van.

After the final Youth Incorporated League match, MBA team members closed the season by competing in the N.R.A. Sectional match on February 28. MBA did well in both individual and team competition with Stevens placing third and the silver team placing first in the Scholastic Division.

If you are interested in being a part of a highly competitive sport in which millimeters make the difference in winning and losing, if you would like to be a part of one of MBA's most consistently successful teams, if you would like to participate in an enjoyable event growing in popularity each year, then you should try out for the MBA rifle team next year.

Caving Trip

By Mack Brothers

At the third annual Dunbar Cave trip on February 27, Mr. Womack and his courageous Outing Club followers descended into the depths of a claustrophobic hell.

Except for Mr. Womack, Steve Altemeyer, and Mack Brothers, all of the explorers were freshmen and neophytes to spelunking. Glenn Dukes, Jeff Dukes, Bob Ledyard, and Ben Robertson, being the inquisitive freshmen that they are, explored every nook and crevice they could find.

Ranger Bob Wells, who led our expedition, emphasized the necessity

for conservation in the delicate ecosystem inside the cave. He suggested having an overnight trip next year so that the Outing Club could help clean up the cave. Also, some exploring of rarely used passages would be on the agenda.

After three hours of seeing the natural beauty of the cave, the seven excursionists emerged into the dazzling daylight. At the mouth of the cave, one could almost hear Aaron Isherwood's memorable pleas for help over the Dukes' constant yapping. February 27 drew to a close for the seven explorers as the gray van headed into the sunset.



1982 Junior School Intramural Champions SS (left to right): (first row) Lee Vaughn, Steve Molbach, Bill Cochran, Mitch Malott, John Griffith, (back row) Pat Parker, George Mabry, Howard Tidwell, David Farrar, Chuck Brandon.

Should MBA Be AA?

The question of whether MBA should compete at the AA level or the AAA level is indeed an insult to the school's athletic program. MBA's soccer, wrestling, cross-country, track, golf, and tennis teams rank year in and year out among the top teams in the state at the AAA classification. For most people, the pertinence of the question lies in the area of the three major sports: football, baseball, and basketball. As for football, there is no need for argument. For starters, Coach Tommy Owen is one of the finest high school football coaches in the country. If the team played the likes of Goodpasture, Ezell-Harding, Lipscomb, and other A and AA teams in town, the games would be of no enjoyment to the players or the fans. As a matter of fact, MBA no longer bothers to schedule arch-rival BGA as a result of an embarrassing 42-0 MBA homecoming romp four years ago. Coach Owen has said himself that as long as he is coaching, MBA will remain AAA.

In regard to basketball, MBA is always competitive. Although the program is best remembered for its 4-20 record of a year ago, some tend to forget the team two years ago which finished second in the district and made a trip to the regional tournament. Sure, some big public schools with four to five times as many candidates to choose from offer a threat to MBA, but the team usually holds its own.

The baseball program's reputation is beyond reproach; during the 1970's, the Big Red won two state championships, an honor no other team can boast. Built by Coach John Bennett and continued by Jim Jefferson, the baseball program has not suffered a losing season since 1964.

By this far-too-brief overview of the athletics at Montgomery Bell Academy, one can see that MBA will always be a team to be reckoned with on the playing field. Should MBA remain AAA? The answer is a resounding "yes."

-Ken Downey

The Bell Ringer's Sports Editor

Outing Club Hits the Slopes

By Seth Sharpe & George Bueno

On Saturday February 13, the Outing Club embarked on probably its most enthusiastic adventure on the year, the ski trip to Ski Starlite in Indiana. Although the three and half hour trip was clouded by the wailing of Jim Morrison, the group recovered with a warm meal at the "Tasty World" of Days Inn in Jefferson, Indiana. An hour later the experts and novices hit the

treacherous icy slopes. The crowded slopes provided ample opportunity to fall and for Mr. Saclarides to attract Ski Bunnies. At nightfall, the conditions improved with the thinning of the crowd. The evening ended with the trip back to Days Inn where we entered our "luxurious suites." The next day began with a hearty meal and great expectations. Since it was cold

enough Saturday night, artificial snow was provided to make a meaty base. The snow quickly turned to slush under the blazing skis of Dr. Niemeyer. The day ended with one of our finest skiers virtually kicked off the slopes by an untrained member of Ski Starlite's patrol. Nevertheless, the group returned to Nashville exhilarated by the adventure.

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CLOTHIERS TO GENTLEMEN
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Clay Young prepares for the upcoming baseball season. Plan to support the team against Glencliff at Warner Park on Wednesday, March 24.

Soccer: The Unclean Eleven

By Paul G. Kornman

Most of you, I'm sure, are familiar with the story of the Dirty Dozen, a rag-tag bunch of misfits who were recruited into the U.S. Army for their special abilities in order to fight the Nazis during World War II. This story is not even close to theirs. This is the Story of (pregnant pause ... followed by a blare of trumpets and/or drum roll).

THE UNCLEAN ELEVEN

Our story begins with the first meeting between the tough, curly-headed drill sergeant Jack Lanier (Note: the names have been slightly changed to protect the innocent) and his squad. He has specially

chosen 11 of the roughest, toughest soldiers in the Academy for this special mission. Sergeant Lanier had been placed on top of this very important operation by the Pentagon (equilateral, I'm sure) because of his expert knowledge in the field of special velocity transportation. This operation involves getting ten of the eleven members to take a specially designed spherical object beyond enemy territory and place it safely within the confines of the enemy's tightly netted security base, while the 11th member would stay behind and guard our own security base.

Every day for three solid months, the squad held practice on the Government regulation, economy-sized pitch, serial number 473J. There Sergeant Lanier and his ever-helpful and very nice assistant, Corporal George Kornman, go over the techniques necessary for this very dangerous procedure. The team members learned the highly sophisticated code words vital to this mission, such as the highly cryptic "egg", "boot", "Rubbish", and most importantly, "That's Dead!" Then, one somewhat cloudy day, Sergeant Lanier told the squad who would be in charge of each part of the operation. Leading off the attack squad would be the most agile and flexible member of the team, an All-American boy named Ivan Jones, and his partner the slightly repetitive Alvin Wheatcraft. Their mission, if they chose to accept it, was the very technical placement of the sphere into the security base. Behind them to carry the sphere to the outskirts of enemy territory

would be the fleet-footed Wally Zibas, and the rather laconic and taciturn Andy Schenker, the down-to-earth guy Kris Guzowski, and don't forget the courageous Copper Lilly.

Also, for more back-up would be the four members of the team whose main duty was to guard our security posts from enemy attack and repulse all efforts to gain entry. The stalwart young men were "Frenchy" Davidson, towering Hank Bennett, and the powerful Dr. Hughes. "Ace" Townsend is the very talented guard of our base, always on the defense and always keeping the hair out of his eyes.

Now, Sergeant Lanier and Corporal Kornman are ready to execute this dangerous, yet highly entertaining maneuver. They ran the same kind of operation last year, but it must have been Top Secret since nobody seemed to know when they performed it. So, see it soon at a battlefield near you.

Duty Roster

Date	Opponent
March 26	B G A
March 30	Hillsboro
April 2	Overton
April 6	Father Ryan
April 13	Baylor
April 20	Franklin
April 23	Hillwood
April 27	McCallie
April 30	Hendersonville
May 13-15	State Tournament

Varsity Baseballers Optimistic

By Chris Guzickowski

The varsity baseball team, under the guidance of Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Regen, hopes to continue the winning tradition of past teams in 1982.

Although the team lost many starters to graduation, Coach Jefferson is optimistic about this team. He feels that the infield will provide great defensive stability but the offense will not be quite as potent as last year's.

The team to beat in District 11 will be Overton, last year's runner-up. The Bobcat squad is comprised mostly of Juniors. This year, TSSAA rules will allow two teams

from each district to advance to the region playoffs. This rule change should aid the Big Red.

Coach Jefferson stresses the fact that the team must play as a team if they wish to be successful. Although MBA has many quality players, one person can not carry the team through the tough season. The pitching staff should be led by senior Ken Downey and junior David McIlwain, both of whom saw action last season.

The team hopes to finish higher than last year's 3rd place in District 11. All support would be appreciated greatly.

March 20	Clarksville N.E.
March 24	Glencliff
March 26	Antioch
March 29	Overton*
March 31	Ryan
April 2	Hillwood
April 5	Hillsboro*
April 7	Pearl
April 8	Brentwood
April 12	Glencliff
April 14	Antioch*
April 16	Overton
April 19	Ryan*
April 21	Hillwood*
April 23	Hillsboro
April 26	Pearl*
April 27	Lipscomb
April 30	District Tournament

*Games at Warner Park. Most games at 3:45.

Track Preview

By Runcie Clements

The Track team, coached by Michael Drake, hopes to have a good season this year. Last year, somewhat of a rebuilding year, has hopefully proven helpful for this year's track team, which is still young with a few seniors. MBA participated in an indoor meet at MTSU in mid-February and finish-

ed with points scored in the high jump by Kirk Porter and the pole-vault by Steve Shankle. The performances in the meet were a marked improvement over last year's performance. With promising sophomore prospects, improving juniors, and senior leadership, this year's track team shows potential for the season and for the future.

VARSITY TRACK

March 10	Hillsboro
April 2	Franklin
April 3	Western Kentucky Relays
April 7	Overton
April 10	McCallie Relays
April 16	Hillwood
April 24	Optimist Relays
April 30	Banner Relays
May 7	Regional Meet
May 15	State Meet
May 21-22	Regional Decathlon
May 25-26	State Decathlon

Having returned all of its starters from last year, the Big Red hopes to better its previous 12-2 record in the upcoming season. The returning top six include Danny DeBlanc, Jamie Houdeshell, John Gallaher, Andrew Berry, David Miller, and Fletcher Lance. However, there are several players who hope to break the top six during the season. These include seniors John Van and Steve Howell, juniors Jim Fite and Bronson Casey, sophomores Garth Fails and Kip Smith, and freshman Hunt Warner.

The Big Red opens its season on

VARSITY GOLF

March 10	NCS	April 19	MBA Invitational
March 24	Dickson Co.	April 20	Ryan
March 26	FRA	April 21	Hillwood
March 29	Cohn	April 23	Gallatin
March 31	Clarksville		Hendersonville
	Hendersonville	April 26	Glencliff
April 5	Prep Classic	April 28	Hillsboro
April 6	Overton	April 30	Clarksville
April 7	USN	May 3	Ryan & BGA
April 9	BGA	May 5	District
April 12	Lipscomb	May 10	Regional
April 14	Franklin	May 18-19	State
April 16	Dickson Co.		

Tennis Team Eyes State Title

By Danny DeBlanc

MBA's Varsity Tennis team is anticipating a very successful season. Coach Jim Poston believes that this team, District and Regional champion and 3rd in the state, may be one of the strongest that he has ever coached.

March 8 against Cookeville. Later that month, they will travel to Chattanooga in hopes of revenge against Baylor. On April 15, the Big Red will again make its annual road trip to Chattanooga to participate in the prestigious Rotary Tournament. Rounding out the end of the regular season will be the Francis E. Carter Memorial Tournament. Finally, the last due match pits the Big Red against rival Brentwood at Brentwood. Then, on May 3, the District Tournament begins, with Region and State following in the next two weeks.

Thus, Coach Poston is extremely optimistic about this team's promise. He feels that with good, consistent play, last year's only losses to Baylor and McCallie can be avenged. Also, with hard work and a little luck, the Big Red may even better its 3rd place finish in the state.

March 10	BGA
March 30	at Baylor
April 1	Riverdale
April 3	McCallie
April 5	at Hillwood
April 7	Hillsboro
April 9	Cathedral Prep.
April 12	USN
April 15	at McCallie
April 16-17	Rotary
April 20	Brentwood
April 22	Knoxville Webb
April 23-24	(at Centennial Park)
April 26	Carter Invitational
April 27	Ryan
	(at Centennial)
	at Brentwood
May 3-5	District 24
May 12-15	Region 6
May 18-20	State

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